

Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System

Scanned Record Cover Page

Inventory No:	EAS.74
Historic Name:	Savage, Capt. James House
Common Name:	
Address:	280 Massasoit Rd
City/Town:	Eastham
Village/Neighborhood:	
Local No:	08-141
Year Constructed:	r 1870
Architect(s):	
Architectural Style(s):	Greek Revival
Use(s):	Agricultural; General Retail Store; Single Family Dwelling House
Significance:	Agriculture; Architecture
Area(s):	
Designation(s):	
Building Materials(s):	Roof: Asphalt Shingle Wall: Wood Clapboard; Wood Shingle; Wood Foundation: Brick



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Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Massachusetts Historical Commission
220 Morrissey Boulevard, Boston, Massachusetts 02125
www.sec.state.ma.us/mhc

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FORM B - BUILDING

P10

EAS.74

Massachusetts Historical Commission
Massachusetts Archives Building
220 Morrissey Boulevard
Boston, Massachusetts 02125

Assessor's
Number

08/141

USGS Quad

Orleans

Area(s)

Form Number

74

Town

Eastham



Neighborhood or village)

280 Massasoit Road

Name

Present Residential

Original

"

Construction Between 1858 & 1880

See Bibliography*

Form Greek Revival

Architect/Builder

Exterior Material:

Foundation

Brick

Wall/Trim

Clapboard (facade and S elevation) Shingles (N and E elevation)

Roof

Asphalt Shingles

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures
Free-standing Barn

Major Alterations (with dates)

Condition

Good

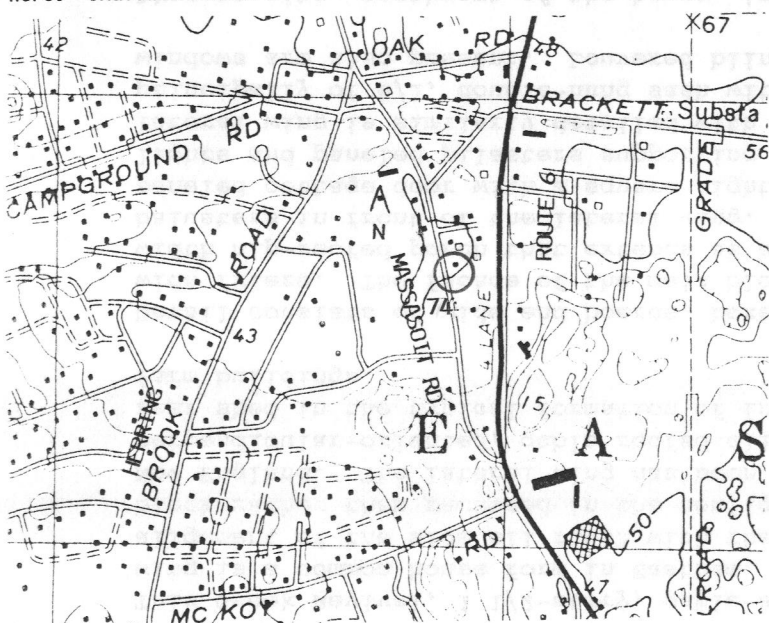
Moved X no yes Date

Acreage

.5 Acres

Setting Located in a moderately-settled, rural area near the intersection of Bracket Road.

here. Indicate North.



Recorded by: Dianne L. Siergieja
and Sanford Johnson
Organization: Commonwealth Collaborative

Date: August 1995

RECEIVED

SEP 20 1995

MASS. HIST. COMM.

BUILDING FORM

280 Massasoit Road

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION See continuation sheet.

Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.

This Greek Revival, 1 1/2-story, gable-end, side-entry dwelling with lateral wing is a common house form in Eastham. Typical to Eastham also is the alignment of the side ell flush with the plane of the facade of the main block rather than recessed in the configuration more common elsewhere in New England. The lateral wing has been expanded to the rear (east) by a perpendicular-oriented, gable roofed ell leading to an attached gable-roofed, rear shed in the typical formation of interconnected, New England, farm buildings.

Detail consists of wide end boards, boxed, molded cornice and a 2-part, wide frieze. The facade of the main block is sheltered by a 1-story, full-width hip-roofed porch that extends as an open deck enclosed by spool-like balusters in front of the lateral wing. The main entry consists of a wood, paneled cottage door with a square light in a surround including full side lights and paneled pilasters supporting an entablature. The entry to the lateral wing is similarly detailed with a 6-panel door. Fenestration consists principally of 6/1, double-hung sash with plain trim. Some 2/2, 6/6, and 6/2 windows are also present. Louvered blinds are modern replacements.

Also on site, northeast of the house, is a free-standing, shingled, gable-roofed barn/shed with an attached, Victorian-inspired, angled porch.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE X See continuation sheet.

Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.

Massasoit Road was developed during the Federal Period (1775-1830). By the end of the Federal Period, Methodists had established a campground near Campground Road off Massasoit Road. This center for summer religious retreats lasted from 1830 to 1862 when the camp moved to Yarmouth. By 1831, one of Eastham's five schools and many residences were located on Massasoit Road.

It is likely that many of the residents were involved in agriculture. Grains were an early cash crop in Eastham and later, asparagus and turnips became more common. Husbandry and fishing were also important sources of income for Massasoit Road residents. By 1901, at least seven farmers were living on Massasoit Road. There were also a clerk, lighthouse keeper, laborer and a grocer. A provisions store was located on the corner of Oak and Massasoit Roads. By the twentieth century, the road had become an important way from Orleans through Eastham to Wellfleet. Seasonal residents had begun building summer homes and cottages by the Early Modern Period.

Deed research for the property at 280 Massasoit Road does not trace the chain of title prior to 1913. The following identifications of previous owners is derived from period maps which indicate the dwelling was probably built

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES X See continuation sheet.

 X Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places;
If checked, see attached National Register Criteria Statement form.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE (continued)

between 1858 and 1880. An early resident may have been Captain James Savage, whose name appears on a building at the approximate site of the house on the 1880 map of Eastham. James Savage (b. Halifax, N.S., 1829; d. Eastham, 1926) went to sea at age nine. He later attended Bridgewater Academy before sailing in the merchant trade to South American and Mediterranean ports. He later sailed in the whaling fleets out of Wellfleet and New Bedford. James Savage married Hannah Higgins, a member of a prominent, local family. He retired from the sea before age fifty. Captain Savage was next engaged in weir fishing and civic activities including serving as chair of the library building committee. By 1901, Savage lived as a boarder at the house of Austin Cole on Main Street in Eastham.

The resident of 280 Massasoit Road at the turn of the century may have been "Mrs. Hamlin." Her heirs are noted as the residents on the 1908 map of Eastham. Nothing further is known of Mrs. Hamlin or her heirs. The barn suggests the property may have been a farm. The house is currently used as a retail store. Definite information on ownership of the property will require additional deed research.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES (continued)

*House File, 280 Massasoit Road, Eastham Historical Society Archives.

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(Falmouth: Eastham Historical Society, 1968), pp. 141-142.

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Roger, Josiah, Knowles, Elijah and Kinsman, Simeon. Map of the Town of
Eastham, 1794.

Walker, George F. Atlas of Barnstable County. Boston: George F. Walker
& Co., 1880.

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Wallings, Henry F. Map of Eastham. Boston: D. R. Smith Co., 1858.



Massachusetts Historical Commission
Massachusetts Archives Building
220 Morrissey Boulevard
Boston, Massachusetts 02125

Community: Eastham
Property Address: 280 Massasoit Road

Area Form No. 74

National Register of Historic Places Criteria Statement

Check all that apply:

- ☒ Individually eligible ☐ Eligible only in a historic district
☐ Contributing to a potential historic district ☐ Potential historic district

Criteria: ☒ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D

Criteria Considerations: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Statement of Significance by: Dianne L. Siergiej
The criteria that are checked in the above sections must be justified here.

The property at 280 Massasoit Road is significant on a local level with regard to the above-referenced criteria as a remarkably intact example of the gable-end, side-entry house form with flush-plane, lateral wing in Eastham. It is also significant for its association with James Savage, a merchant mariner, whaler and fisherman whose career is representative of the combined occupations typically required for survival in the local economy.

Original yellow form: Eligibility file _____
Copies: Inventory form ☒ _____
Town file(w/corresp.) _____
Macris _____
NR director _____

EAS.74

Community: Eastham

MHC OPINION: ELIGIBILITY FOR NATIONAL REGISTER

Date Received: 10/95

Date Due:

Date Reviewed: 12/6/95

Type: ☒ Individual

☐ District (Attach map indicating boundaries)

Name:

Inventory Form: EAS.74

Address: 280 Massasoit Road

Requested by: LHC

Action: ☒ Honor ☐ ITC ☐ Grant ☐ R & C ☐ Other:

Agency:

Staff in charge of Review: BF

INDIVIDUAL PROPERTIES

☐ Eligible
☐ Eligible, also in district
☐ Eligible only in district
☐ Ineligible
☒ More information needed

DISTRICTS

☐ Eligible
☐ Ineligible
☐ More information needed

CRITERIA: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D

LEVEL: ☐ Local ☐ State ☐ National

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE by Kathleen Kelly Broomer

More information is needed to determine whether 280 Massasoit Road is eligible for the National Register. The recent survey recorded what appear to be better-preserved examples of the gable-front with lateral wing house form, most notably 120 Bridge Road. In addition, the inventory form notes that the history of the property prior to 1913 is unclear and merits deed research. Neither the architectural nor historical significance of the property in the town of Eastham can be confirmed at this time.